

**Summary of the Minutes**  
**August 18, 2014 Meeting**  
**City of Binghamton Shade Tree Commission**  
**PHCD Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**

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**Commissioners Present:** Dick Andrus (Chair), Julian Shepherd, Lou Sebesta, Joshua DeMarree, Beverly Rainforth

**Commissioners Absent:** Carolyn Wilczynski (excused)

**Staff Liaison:** Melissa Enoch (Planning Department)

**Guests:** Artem Treyger

**Selection of scribe:** Beverly Rainforth

**Approval of minutes of previous meeting.** Approved

**Next meeting date and time:** September 15, 2014 7:00 PM

**1. City Site Plans: None**

**2. Green Stormwater Management and Landscaping Fund (GSMLF)**

a. Status of previous applications:

Green Stormwater and Landscaping Matching Fund (GSMLF) Application Summary					
No.	Address	Received	Reviewed	Decision	Notes
GSLMF-001	36 Seminary Ave	6/13/2014	STC meeting 6/16/14	Incomplete	Incomplete application letter sent on 6/17/14; letter returned to sender, no
GSLMF-002	55 Johnson Ave	6/16/2014	STC meeting 6/16/14	Funded - \$5,000	Project complete
GSLMF-003	160 Mary Street	7/10/2014	STC meeting 7/21/14	Recommendation to fund when supplemental info received	Incomplete email sent on 7/10/14; STC completed initial review at 7/21/14
GSLMF-004	48 Highland Ave	8/6/2014	Email to STC 08/06/14	Recommendation to fund	Pending director signature

b. Applications to review:

GSLMF – 005      79 Leroy Street approved for \$3,354.68

GSLMF - 006      67 Lathrop Ave. Approved for \$5,000.

**3. Shade Tree Commission Statement**

Approved with additions to a) introduction [trees also reduce air and noise pollution], and b) rationale for planting larger trees [guideline 3 – greater ecological benefits].

**4. Clarifications on Attendance Policy (adopted at last meeting).**

STC members will have no more than 3 unexcused absences in a calendar year, and no more than 6 absences total in a calendar year. If unable to attend a meeting, STC members will contact the Department of Planning staff liaison to Commission (currently Melissa

Enoch mlenoch@cityofbinghamton.com); failure to notify the Planning Department will constitute an unexcused absence.

## **5. Other Updates**

- a. Removal of dead trees. Commission inquired about whether or not the City has a removal policy for dead trees. Melissa was unaware of one but will ask the Parks Department. Joshua will survey the city for street trees that have no leaves in July/August and notify Bill Barber, Parks Dept. Joshua also will check depth that young trees were planted, to make sure this was not the reason for their death. (It may have been due to the late planting and unusually harsh winter.)
- b. Citizen Pruner program. Josh is planning a training for early November, and will advertise for new pruners. He would like to offer a workshop on pests that kill trees, with Kevin Mathers, Cornell Cooperative Extension, possibly in October.

**The meeting concluded at 8:20 PM.**